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10/064,574	07/28/2002	Richard David Davis	RD01	3239

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, PHUNG

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2632

DATE MAILED: 01/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/064,574

Applicant(s)

DAVIS, RICHARD DAVID

Examiner

Phung T Nguyen

Art Unit

2632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 October 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                      4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                      5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_                      6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Drawings*

#### INFORMATION ON HOW TO EFFECT DRAWING CHANGES

##### Replacement Drawing Sheets

Drawing changes must be made by presenting replacement figures which incorporate the desired changes and which comply with 37 CFR 1.84. An explanation of the changes made must be presented either in the drawing amendments, or remarks, section of the amendment. **Any replacement drawing sheet must be identified in the top margin as "Replacement Sheet" and include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even though only one figure may be amended.** The figure or figure number of the amended drawing(s) must not be labeled as "amended." If the changes to the drawing figure(s) are not accepted by the examiner, applicant will be notified of any required corrective action in the next Office action. No further drawing submission will be required, unless applicant is notified.

Identifying indicia, if provided, should include the title of the invention, inventor's name, and application number, or docket number (if any) if an application number has not been assigned to the application. If this information is provided, it must be placed on the front of each sheet and centered within the top margin.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-4, 6-10, 18, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Friedman (U.S. Pat. 5,337,041) in view of Bowling (U.S. Pat. 6,661,344).

**Regarding claim 1:** Friedman discloses a personal safety guard system for stray person or pet which comprises all subject matter as follows:

Art Unit: 2632

a. a transmitter 10 that comprises broadcasting means for broadcasting signals and control means 28 for turning the broadcasting means on and off (figure 1, col. 5, lines 3-38); and a receiver 50 attachable to the pet that can receive the signals (figure 4, col. 3, lines 41-46) and comprises electronic means for recording a human voice (col. 11, lines 9-26), a switch for turning the electronic means on and off (col. 13, lines 10-17), an amplifier 226 and a speaker 68 (col. 9, lines 44-51). Friedman does not directly disclose a microphone for recording of a command spoken by a human voice. However, Bowling teaches an electronic identification system comprising a microphone 54 for recording any message (figure 3, col. 1, lines 64-67, and col. 5, lines 51-54). Therefore, it would have been obvious to the one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Bowling and Friedman because they both a system for assisting in the recovery of lost pets. It is seen that using the microphone of Bowling in the system of Friedman would provide more convenient by allowing the user to record any message at any location as desired.

**Regarding claim 2:** Friedman discloses the receiver is part of a collar that fits around the neck of the pet as seen in figure 4, col. 3, lines 41-46).

**Regarding claim 3:** Bowling teaches the pet is a dog (col. 1, lines 18-23).

**Regarding claim 4:** Friedman discloses the receiver including at least one light controlled by a signal (col. 11, lines 9-14).

**Regarding claim 6:** Friedman discloses the transmitter is powered by at least one battery (col. 5, lines 31-33).

**Regarding claim 7:** Friedman discloses the receiver is powered by at least one battery (col. 6, lines 24-30).

Art Unit: 2632

**Regarding claim 8:** Friedman discloses the signals are encoded and are decoded by the receiver (col. 8, lines 15-18).

**Regarding claim 9:** Friedman discloses the signals are radio signals (col. 4, lines 6-10).

**Regarding claim 10:** The claimed limitation is already discussed in claim 1 above.

**Regarding claim 18:** Bowling teaches the recording is digital (col. 6, lines 9-15).

**Regarding claim 20:** Friedman discloses a pair of antenna wires 86a and 86b as seen in figure 4, col. 7, lines 16-18.

3. Claims 5, 11-17, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Friedman in view of Bowling and further in view of Bonge, Jr. (U.S. Pat. 5,872,516).

**Regarding claim 5:** Friedman discloses broadcasting at least two signals visual and audible alarm indicators (col. 11, lines 9-25). Friedman and Bowling do not teach broadcasting two signals, one to turn on the recording and another to turn on the light. However, Bonge, Jr. discloses an ultrasonic transceiver and remote controlled devices for pets comprising two individually modulated signals (col. 2, lines 52-57). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the teaching of Bonge, Jr. in the system of the combination because they teach a system for assisting in the recovery of a stray pet. It is seen that broadcasting at least two signals of Bonge, Jr. would increase the flexibility of the combination's system by separately controlling the visual and audible alarm indicators.

**Regarding claim 11:** Friedman discloses all the claimed subject matter as follows:

a. a transmitter 10 (col. 5, lines 3-7);

Art Unit: 2632

- b. control means for turning the broadcasting means on and off (col. 5, lines 31-33);
- c. battery for powering the transmitter (col. 5, lines 43-49);
- d. a receiver 50 in the form of a collar (figure 4, col. 3, lines 41-46, and col. 6, lines 13-19);
- e. a light 64 (col. 11, lines 9-14);
- f. electronic means for recording a human voice and for turning on the recording when a sound signal is received (col. 11, lines 9-26);
- g. a switch for turning the electronic means on and off (col. 13, lines 10-17);
- h. amplifying the recording and a speaker 68 for converting the amplified recording into sound (figure 11, col. 9, lines 44-51);
- i. turning on the light when a light signal is received (col. 11, lines 9-14);
- j. at least one battery for powering the receiver (col. 6, lines 24-30);

Friedman does not directly disclose a microphone for recording of a command spoken by a human voice. However, Bowling teaches an electronic identification system comprising a microphone 54 for making a digital recording of a command spoken by a human voice (figure 3, col. 1, lines 64-67, col. 5, lines 51-54, and col. 6, lines 9-15). Therefore, it would have been obvious to the one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Bowling and Friedman because they both a system for assisting in the recovery of lost pets. It is seen that using the microphone of Bowling in the system of Friedman would provide more convenient by allowing the user to record any message at any location as desired.

Friedman discloses broadcasting at least two signals visual and audible alarm indicators (col. 11, lines 9-25). Friedman and Bowling do not teach broadcasting a radio sound

Art Unit: 2632

signal and a radio light signal as claimed. However, Bonge, Jr. discloses an ultrasonic transceiver and remote controlled devices for pets comprising two individually modulated signals (col. 2, lines 52-57). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the teaching of Bonge, Jr. in the system of the combination because they teach a system for assisting in the recovery of a stray pet. It is seen that broadcasting at least two signals of Bonge, Jr. would increase the flexibility of the system of the combination by separately controlling the visual and audible alarm indicators.

**Regarding claim 12:** Friedman discloses the signals are encoded and the receiver including a decoder (col. 8, lines 15-28).

**Regarding claim 13:** The claimed limitation is already discussed in claim 11 above.

**Regarding claim 14:** Friedman discloses broadcasting a light signal on the transmitter (col. 10, lines 65-68, and col. 11, lines 1-14).

**Regarding claim 15:** Friedman discloses all subject matter as follows:

- a. a transmitter 10 (col. 5, lines 3-7);
- b. battery for powering the transmitter (col. 5, lines 43-49);
- c. a receiver 50 in the form of a collar (figure 4, col. 3, lines 41-46, and col. 6, lines 13-19);
- d. means for receiving and decoding the encoded radio signals (col. 10, lines 65-68, and col. 11, lines 1-14);
- e. electronic means for recording a human voice (col. 11, lines 14-26);
- f. a switch for turning the electronic means on and off (col. 13, lines 10-17);

g. amplifying the recording and a speaker 68 for converting the amplified recording into sound (figure 11, col. 9, lines 44-51);

h. turning on the recording when a sound signal is received (col. 11, lines 3-26);

i. battery for powering the receiver (col. 6, lines 24-30);

Friedman discloses the high intensity lamps 64, 66, and 82 to flash on and off when a light signal is received (col. 11, lines 9-14) but does not show turning on the light emitting diode when a light signal is received. Since they perform the same function, it would have been obvious to the skilled artisan to use the light emitting diode instead of the lamps 64, 66, and 82 for serving as a visual alarm indicator.

Friedman does not directly disclose a microphone and electronic means having at least two channels for making digital recording of a command spoken by a human voice. However, Bowling teaches an electronic identification system comprising a microphone 54 for recording any digital message (figures 3 and 11, col. 1, lines 64-67, col. 5, lines 51-54, and col. 6, lines 9-15). Since Bowling teaches a digitally recorded message stored on the memory device 47, it would be obvious to the skilled artisan to recognize that the device of Bowling includes at least two channels for making digital recording of commands spoken by a human voice. Therefore, it would have been obvious to the one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Bowling and Friedman because they both a system for assisting in the recovery of lost pets. It is seen that using the microphone of Bowling in the system of Friedman would provide more convenient by allowing the user to record any message at any location as desired.



Friedman discloses broadcasting at least two signals visual and audible alarm indicators (col. 11, lines 9-25). Friedman and Bowling do not teach broadcasting at least two encoded radio signals including a sound signal and a light signal; and control means for selecting and broadcasting a particular signal as claimed. However, Bonge, Jr. discloses an ultrasonic transceiver and remote controlled devices for pets comprising two individually modulated signals (col. 2, lines 52-57). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the teaching of Bonge, Jr. in the system of Friedman and Bowling because they teach a system for assisting in the recovery of a stray pet. It is seen that broadcasting at least two signals of Bonge, Jr. would increase the flexibility of the combination's system by separately controlling the visual and audible alarm indicators.

**Regarding claim 16:** Refer to claim 13 above.

**Regarding claim 17:** Refer to claim 14 above.

**Regarding claim 19:** Refer to claim 15 above.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

#### ***Conclusion***

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO**

Art Unit: 2632

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

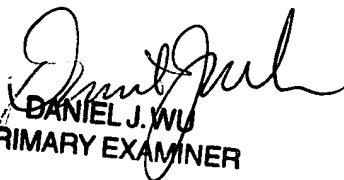
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phung Nguyen whose telephone number is (703)308-6252. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:00am to 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel J. Wu can be reached on 703-308-6730. The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-308-9051 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-4700.

Examiner: Phung Nguyen

Date: January 12, 2004

  
DANIEL J. WU  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
01/24/04